

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017
Infrastructure and Regional Development

Committee Question Number: 11
Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000009

Program: n/a
Division/Agency: Australian Rail Track Corporation
Topic: Speed Restrictions on NE Vic Line
Proof Hansard Page: 28 (27 February 2017)

Senator Rice, Janet asked:

Senator RICE: I have been told by local residents that there are currently 23 temporary speed restrictions in place compared with the eight to 10 that were in place a year ago.

Mr Fullerton: I need to take that on notice to verify whether that is correct or not. My advice is that the speed restrictions I am referring to—there are about eight to 10 speed restrictions.

Answer:

There were four temporary speed restrictions in place as of 17 April 2017.

Of those four, two are subject to future Victorian Government level crossing safety improvement works.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017
Infrastructure and Regional Development

Committee Question Number: 12
Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000010

Program: N/A
Division/Agency: Australian Rail Track Corporation
Topic: Victorian Interstate Infrastructure Lease Agreement
Proof Hansard Page: 30 (27 February 2017)

Senator Rice, Janet asked:

Senator RICE: Yes, I hear you saying that. But I cannot understand, and the community cannot understand, why that raw data which determines the quality of the track needs to be confidential.

....

Mr Fullerton: I think the important thing is to make sure that whatever we communicate with the community on what we are doing to get the track up to performance—and that data is complex data that is generated—

Senator RICE: Yes, but that is not an answer as to why that data should be confidential. It is complex, yes. But there are people who are capable of interrogating complex data. It is a matter of your reputation in the community, because the community are talking to me and they are concerned that you are hiding data. They are concerned that your assessment of the track—yes, it meets standards that you have determined with the Victorian government, but it does not meet the community standards. We have 23 temporary speed restrictions and we have ongoing really slow, inefficient services. What that means is that the community is being adversely affected.

Mr Fullerton: I think that, if you have a look at the performance of the track and the ballast rehabilitation that we have implemented over five years, there has been a substantial improvement in the performance and the statistics show that.

Senator RICE: Will you take on notice whether you could consider making that raw data available given that you have not been able to provide us with a good reason as to why it should be confidential?

Mr Fullerton: I will, Senator.

Answer:

ARTC has obtained approval from Public Transport Victoria (PTV) to publish the Victorian Interstate Infrastructure lease agreement (including the full schedules) and associated quarterly Victorian interstate infrastructure lease KPI reports. The quarterly reports include the raw data from the ARTC track recording car. These documents are available to the public on ARTC's website (published 3 March 2017) at <http://www.artc.com.au/about/reports/victorian-lease/>.

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Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017
Infrastructure and Regional Development

Committee Question Number: 13
Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000011

Program: N/A
Division/Agency: Australian Rail Track Corporation
Topic: Victorian Interstate Infrastructure Lease Agreement
Proof Hansard Page: 32 (27 February 2017)

Senator Rice, Janet asked:

Senator RICE: So you would release that data if the Victorian government agreed to have the lease made public?

Mr Fullerton: We would release the lease document, which includes the performance requirements that are placed on us in terms of the lease.

Senator RICE: And you would then release the data that you measure?

Mr Fullerton: No, that is a separate issue, Senator.

Mr Mrdak: I think Mr Fullerton has taken on notice his view on the data. We will come back to you on that one.

Answer:

See response to SQ17-000010.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
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Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017
Infrastructure and Regional Development

Committee Question Number: 14
Departmental Question Number: SQ17-000012

Program: N/A
Division/Agency: Australian Rail Track Corporation
Topic: Inland Rail – ARTC expenditures in 2017-18 and 2018-19
Proof Hansard Page: 33 (27 February 2017)

Senator McCarthy, Malrindirri asked:

Senator McCARTHY: How much has been spent so far in 2016 and 2017 on this once in a generation project? At this stage in the financial year, how much do you expect to spend by the end of 2016-17?

Mr Fullerton: Year to date, we have spent \$30.1 million. That is to 31 January. Project to date, we have spent \$92.7 million.

Senator McCARTHY: What about in terms of the coming financial years—2017-18 and 2018-19?

Mr Fullerton: I would need to take that on notice, but I think that, of that \$300 million of grant funding, we have had approval to spend \$285 million. That will be spent over the next 18 months.

Senator McCARTHY: Could you take that on notice then in terms of the years 2017-18 and 2018-19?

Mr Fullerton: I can, yes.

Answer:

As at 24 March 2017, Inland Rail milestone payments to ARTC for 2017-18 and 2018-19 are projected to be:

\$m	2017-18	2018-19
Grant	90.4	32.8

In addition, the Australian Government committed in the 2016-17 Budget to provide additional equity to ARTC, as follows:

\$m	2017-18	2018-19
Equity	18.7	275.0

These estimates are subject to review in the Australian Government's 2017-18 Budget.